

THE POST

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SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS AND LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Tie vote puts COG in limbo

Editor's note: The following story appeared in Thursday's edition of the Times Leader. A follow-up story from the meeting will appear in next week's edition of The Post.

By CAMILLE FIOTI
Post Correspondent

KINGSTON TWP. - One resident after another stepped up to the microphone at Wednesday's packed board of supervisors meeting to state whether they were for or against the township withdrawing from the Back Mountain Area Council of Governments, a multimunicipal cooperative association that consists of Lehman, Kingston and Dallas townships and Dallas borough.

Opinions were divided, with some touting the benefits of sharing road equipment and emergency services, and others fearful of the loss of independence.

Solicitor Ben Jones said after a thorough review of the issue, he discovered that members of the COG could not immediately respond to needs of their own municipalities individually. He gave a hypothetical example of a pornographic store attempting to open in the township.

Under ordinary circumstances, the township could respond immediately to address the issue, he said. As a member of the COG, he said the other municipalities would be able to veto whatever the township plans to do regarding enacting ordinances, adding that three years must pass before the township could file an appeal to the veto.

"The board of supervisors would be incapable of exercising its charter right to protect its citizens," he said. Within the COG, authority is also granted to other municipalities to grant one zoning officer and one planning commission. "The concept of general consistency frightens me."

The decision was on the agenda to be voted on, but after lengthy discussions of remaining in the COG, the board could not come to a unanimous decision. Supervisors Jeff Box and Paul Sabol voted to table the issue, and Dave Jenkins and Chris Yankovich voted to drop out of the COG.

Because of the tie, the decision could be brought up again at a future meeting.

In other business: The board completed the first reading regarding the adoption of the Adult Entertainment Ordinance.

Six different denominations join for Vacation Bible School Coming together as one

LAUREN COLLINI
For The Post

DALLAS TWP. - When 17-year-old Samantha Marquart heard her church didn't have a director for its annual Vacation Bible School, she stepped right up to the challenge. The St. Paul's Lutheran Church member even put a little twist to the camp for more than 90 campers.

"The Extreme Encounter: A Salvation Space Journey," helped youngsters learn and experience things involving aircraft and space control while being educated by learning, listening and discussing excerpts from the Bible.

The community-wide Vacation Bible School was held last week at the church on Route 118. The event for children ages 3 and older was sponsored by churches of the Back Mountain Ministerium and the following churches were represented - Shavertown United Methodist, St. Paul's Lutheran, Dallas United Methodist, Trinity Presbyterian, Prince of Peace Episcopal and Huntsville United Methodist.

The Bible school featured music, crafts, stories, games and snacks.

Arriving at 9 am, the campers were divided into six groups in order of age: orange, yellow, green, blue, red and purple. The kids were divided into different stations throughout the day, including a mission control where the campers learned about space and become "astronauts in God's world," according to Marquart.

The Wyoming Seminary senior is no stranger to the space program. She has been involved in many events and activities involving NASA and plans to become an astronaut. Marquart is considering attending either Harvard University or MIT.

"I like story-time because we get to color pictures and the story ('The Rocket Man'), is very good and interesting," said Cameron Baltruchitis, 7. Her favorite part of camp was "story-time, games and snack."

Diederick Reitsma, 7, says his favorite part of camp was "playing the game 'Man on the Moon' and learn-



Children play under a parachute as part of outside activities at the multi-denominational Vacation Bible School.

FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK



Camp counselor Jenna Morgan has Jessica Martin amused during singing practices at the Vacation Bible School.

ing about the stars."

"Yesterday, I showed my mom the big dipper, little dipper, the Northern Star and Jupiter because that's what I learned here at camp," he said.

Marquart praised her staff of approximately 30 people.

"I could have never accomplished what I have if it wasn't for my staff," she said. "They have been terrific and I am very thankful to have them on my team."

Lori Baltruchitis, a member of the staff, was equally impressed with Marquart.

"She really is excellent with these kids and has contributed so much to this program," said Baltruchitis.

"If anything, I want these kids to have fun while learning as much as they can from the Bible and about space," said Marquart. "Because space interests me so much, I hope at least some of my passion about

space-control remains with these campers by the end of the week. In fact, I have been wearing my blue NASA space suit every day just so they can see what an astronaut in uniform looks like."

Marquart says she and the staff had a lot of fun with the kids and believes the Bible school is beneficial for the campers and the community. Marquart hopes to have the same success at next year's camp.

10 MINUTES WITH...

Galicki looking forward to new challenges

Editor's note: This is the first in an occasional question and answer series The Post is calling "10 Minutes With..." If you would like to recommend someone for the feature, call editor Dave Konopki at 829-7248 or e-mail him at dkonopki@leader.net.

By DAVE KONOPKI
Post Editor

For more than 20 years, Frank Galicki has been as much a part of the Dallas School District as the blue and white colors and the Mountaineer mascot.

The 54-year-old Mocaqua resident came to the district in

1982 as the high school assistant principal. He served as the school principal from 1983 to 2004 before being named acting superintendent. This school year will be Galicki's second as superintendent.

With students returning to the classroom for the new school year in three weeks, Galicki took a few minutes from his vacation in Las Vegas to talk about his job, the upcoming construction project involving the high school and the Dallas Elementary School, and the challenges facing the district.

DK: You've been the superin-

tendent at Dallas for two years. Considering all of your years with the district, what's it like to hear those words?

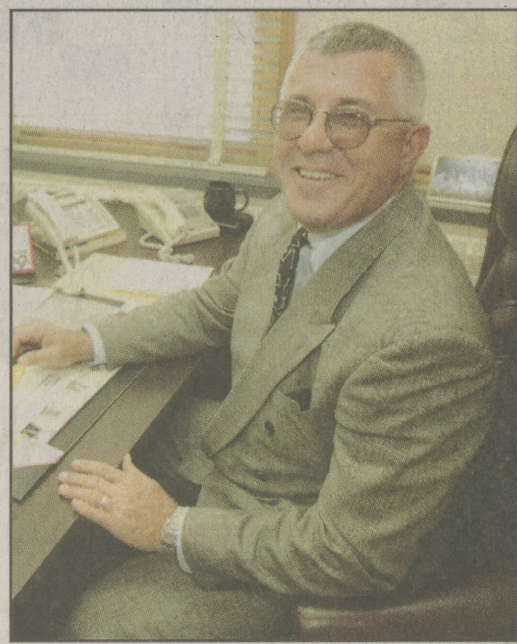
FG: "I think it's an honor to be the superintendent at such a great school district. The job is all encompassing. As a principal, you try to do the best job for that school, the students and the staff. When you step into the superintendent's role, you're trying to do the best job for the entire district, all of the students and staff in all of the buildings. You're also dealing with things like budgets, and many other things all fall on your shoulders. There are a lot of balls

that have to be juggled. It's an awesome job, but I really enjoy it."

DK: You mentioned the huge responsibility. What's it like to be responsible for an entire district?

FG: "At times it's amazing that you have all of those balls to keep in the air. But it's a rewarding job. Right now, one of my biggest jobs is looking at the construction phase and looking into the future of the district and how it's going to impact the community. It's some very heavy-duty stuff. But keep in mind that it's not me mak-

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Dallas School District superintendent Frank Galicki has been with the district since 1982.

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Two of the summer's biggest sporting events - the W-B Triathlon and Potentate Tournament - take center stage.



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